

REMARKS

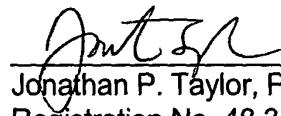
Claims 22-43 have been cancelled. Claims 1-21 are pending.

The specification has been amended to recite a reference to the prior-filed co-pending patent application, pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(2). The specification also has been amended to correct a typographical error (p. 14, lines 3-19) and to reduce the likelihood of any misreading of the description (p. 21, line 11 – p. 22, line 2). No new matter has been added.

Applicants submit that the present application is now ready for examination on the merits. Should the Examiner feel a discussion would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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